

ROCKLAND FINANCE COMMITTEE
ROCKLAND TOWN HALL
ROCKLAND, MA 02370

November 18, 2009

In attendance at the November 18, 2009 Finance Committee meeting were Bill Allen, Rachel Gear, John Ellard, Rich Penney, Bob MacDonald, Joe Gambon, Dolores Baronas, Ian Curran, Caryn Stevens and Paula Ferguson. Julie Shaffer sat in on our meeting and will be sworn in as our newest member before our next meeting.

The meeting was brought to order at 6:33 p.m. by Chairman John Ellard.

A motion was made by Bob MacDonald and seconded by Rich Penney to accept the minutes from the November 3, 2009 meeting. A unanimous vote was taken.

Sewer Superintendent John Loughlin was present to present his budget. He has 2 employees, himself and an administrative assistant. He answered all questions by the Board and explained how the rates are set by the Board of Sewer Commissioners. Currently we pay \$3.00 per 100 cubic feet which is an increase of 1% over last year. The computer services are higher than 2009 based on the discussion of changes in the software from Munis versus Softrite. Additional computer costs may be incurred if new software needs to be purchased or upgraded. They also have a line item of \$15,000 for unforeseen emergencies such as repairs or replacement costs. There is also an increase on Trans Out which is additional money needed to pay the town collector and treasurer for the processing of the sewer bills.

John Ellard announced that there will probably be an increase in health insurance of 11%.

Bob MacDonald and Bill Allen met with Police Chief Llewelyn over his budget. He knows it will be level funded. There are to be 4 retirements in FY 2010 with the sick leave buy back of \$187,000. Chief Llewelyn is looking at a grant for 911 dispatchers. Also, the retirees are considering splitting their sick leave buy back over FY 2010 and 2011 in order to help out the department. It is Chief Llewelyn's hope to have 34 police officers total in the department. There were questions that could not be answered regarding the bumps so the committee decided to invite him to our next meeting. It was also decided to invite every department head to our meetings to go over budgets as there are a lot of questions by the entire committee.

Our next meeting was set for December 2, 2009 in the lower conference room of the town hall.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:42 by Bill Allen, seconded by Rachel Gear. A unanimous vote was taken.

Total in the reserve fund is \$35,000.

Respectfully submitted,

Paula Ferguson
Secretary
Rockland Finance Committee

The following budgets are still outstanding:

Selectmen which includes:

- Town Administrator and Selectmen's Office
- Legal
- Town Hall
- Town Reports
- Article for Landfill Monitoring
- Traffic Lighting
- Street Lighting
- Liability Insurance

Assessors

Collector

Treasurer which includes:

- Treasurer's Department
- Health
- Debt
- FICA
- Retirement

Planning Board

Conservation

Emergency Management

Schools